

Homeland Security Grant Program

Announcement of Pre-applications for VHF Public Safety Radio Funding

August 26, 2010

The Office of Justice Assistance is now accepting pre-applications for funding to replace and upgrade existing VHF public safety radios. The pre-applications will be used by OJA to determine eligibility for the Round 6 radio replacement grants. The pre-application submission is open to any local or tribal public safety agency in Wisconsin that **has not** received an OJA-funded radio through the mutual aid radio replacement program in the past.

The key purpose of this program is to enhance wide access to VHF mutual aid channels among Wisconsin's law enforcement, fire, EMS, and emergency management agencies. Other supporting agencies may be considered if funding is sufficiently available. Note that while this program may tangentially help with local agency migration to narrow band operation that is not the issue this program is intended to address - or the key strategic purpose of the program.

The deadline for submission of pre-applications is Friday, October 8, 2010. Pre-applications must be submitted electronically to ojahomelandsecurity@wisconsin.gov by the deadline. Each agency must submit a separate pre application because an agency profile is needed for this round of funding. Pre-applications submitted by mail or fax will not be accepted. A copy of the pre-application should also be sent to your county or tribal emergency management director, who will be responsible for submitting the grant application on behalf of your agency via Egrants (see below for more information about the grant application process).

Instructions for Completing the Pre-Application

Due to the competitive nature of this grant, pre-applications that are incorrectly filled out and/or missing information will not be accepted.

1. A separate pre-application must be completed by each individual agency requesting radios. Pre-applications should not combine radios for multiple agencies.
2. Enter your name and contact information, including county or tribe, and agency. Please select your county/tribe from the drop-down list provided.
3. Enter the total number of operational personnel for your agency. Operational personnel are those individuals who are required to carry and/or operate a portable and/or mobile radio during their work.
4. Enter the minimum number of operational personnel required to be on duty during a given shift/operational period.
5. Enter total number of VHF mobile and portable radios in your agency's inventory, not including spares or cache radios. Break out the number of radios that are P25 compliant and the number of radios that are not P25 compliant but are capable of being programmed with a minimum of the 20 statewide mutual aid frequencies. In the orange shaded box, the form will calculate the remaining radios that are not P25 or mutual aid ready.
6. Enter your agency's spare and cache VHF radios, following the same instructions as above.

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7. The Remainder totals in the orange boxes reflect the number of VHF radios your agency should consider replacing. Expanding your VHF radio fleet through this program by reporting either (a) broken or (b) out-of service and unsupported inventory is prohibited. UHF radios may be submitted to assist with local agency migration to VHF radios.
8. You may provide additional information to help OJA understand your agency's particular radio needs in the text box. Providing this information is optional.
9. Check the box certifying that all the information provided on this form, the including the radio information provided below, is accurate.
10. Enter the information for each of your agency's current VHF/UHF radios that you intend to request funding to replace. Please only list radios that you intend to replace using grant funds prior to March 31, 2011. The County/Tribe and Agency fields will be pre-filled automatically from your entries above.
 - a. Select the radio user's public safety discipline from the drop-down list. Use the table below to determine the abbreviation of the discipline.

EM	Emergency Management
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
FS	Fire Service
HC	Health Care
LE	Law Enforcement
PH	Public Health
PW	Public Works
RT	Regional Team (USAR, Haz Mat, EOD, SWAT, Dive teams designated by the state only)
 - b. Select the radio manufacturer and model from the drop-down lists. If your manufacturer or model are not listed, you may type this information in manually.
 - c. Enter the serial number of the radio.
 - d. Enter the maximum number of channels the radio is capable of holding.
 - e. Select whether the radio is a mobile, portable, or fixed (base) from the drop-down list.
11. Enter each radio on a separate line of the form. If you are requesting more than 40 radios for your agency, you may fill out and submit additional forms.
12. Email the form to ojahomelandsecurity@wisconsin.gov. Please also send a copy to your county or tribal emergency management director. A directory of emergency management directors may be found at:
<http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov/docview.asp?docid=16073&locid=18>.

Round 6 Radio Replacement Grant Process

Approximately 30 days after pre-application deadline, OJA will announce those agencies eligible for Round 6 VHF radio replacement funding. OJA will also include agencies with eligible radios that submitted a pre-application for Round 5, and did not receive a radio. County and tribal emergency management directors will submit Egrants applications on behalf of all eligible agencies in their jurisdiction. Round 6 radio replacement awards are expected to be made using similar guidelines as in the past, with a 25% local cost-share up to a pre-determined maximum per radio. OJA expects to make awards during November 2010, with a performance period extending into 2011. Specific Round 6 guidelines will be released when the funding announcement is opened in the Egrants system. Approximately \$3 million has been allocated for this funding in 2010. Round 6 is intended to be the final round of grants under the mutual aid radio replacement program.

For additional information about this program, please contact Jennifer Lord at 608-264-7883 or jennifer.lord@wisconsin.gov.